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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Poor Harvest Reported/Shortage of Food/Military  
Maneuvers Stopped

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This year  
[1954] the harvest in Poland was very poor because of bad weather and much rain. On collective farms, and particularly on PGR's (state-owned farms), one can speak of a real catastrophe.

despite the fact that the army has been mobilized to help with the harvesting, more than half of the crops were not even reaped, and they rotted in the fields. Zulawy is one of the most fertile districts in Poland. Since the harvest was so bad here, it was, of course, much poorer in other Polish districts. The population is very worried, and the bad summer has caused a shortage of food for this winter. In order to save as large a part of the harvest as possible, grain as well as potatoes, no army maneuvers were held in the most endangered districts this autumn, and the soldiers were directed to the PGR's instead. But even such drastic measures have not helped to save the harvest on the PGR's. At the same time individual farmers who diligently and cleverly used the short fine-weather period, saved all their harvest or at least most of it. Once again it has been proved that individual farming is superior to the collective or state-owned farms. In various other provinces, too, military maneuvers were stopped because of bad weather. For the first time since the end of World War II military maneuvers have not taken place to the extent planned because of the rescue action on the farms and because of rain."

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